

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

MÜLLER et al.

Appl. No.: 09/423,622

Filed: November 15, 1999

For: A METHOD FOR THE IMPROVEMENT  
OF NEURONAL REGENERATION



Group Art Unit 1647

Examiner O'Laughlin

11/18  
4/1  
3/14/01

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The instant paper responds to the Office action mailed November 8, 2000 (Paper No. 9).

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2.

WO 93/19783 discloses a method for preventing, suppressing or treating a CNS pathology characterized by a deleterious accumulation of extracellular matrix in a tissue by contacting the tissue with an agent that inhibits the extracellular matrix producing activity of TGF- $\beta$ . The disclosed methods can be used to prevent, suppress or treat scar formation in the CNS. As useful agents there are neutralizing anti-TGF- $\beta$  antibodies, Arg-Gly-Asp-containing peptides, decorin and its functional equivalence such as biglycan and TGF- $\beta$  antagonists. TGF- $\beta$  has a wide spectrum of physiological functions such as activation of cells of the immune system, inhibition of cell proliferation, neurotrophic effects on sensory neurons, inhibition of Schwann cell myelination, anti-proliferative effects on glial cells, immunosuppressive effects, stimulation of extracellular matrix deposition and